NAME: Benjamin Ross

DEGREE: Biological Oceanography (PhD)-University of South Florida (2018)
Biological Oceanography (MSc)- University of South Florida (2012) ,
Biology (BA)- Florida Atlantic University (2008)

RESEARCH INTEREST:
Foraminifera are often sensitive indicator species in their environments and have significant potential for environmental monitoring applications. I am interested in these applications, as well as performing research that deepens the understanding of foraminiferal biology and ecology that guide the interpretation of foraminiferal biomonitoring results. This includes researching stress responses in foraminifera (such as dormancy), developing protocols for utilizing foraminifera in novel settings (e.g., as a bioassay organism) and applying newer methods, such as environmental DNA analysis, to foraminifera.

PUBLICATIONS:

Ross, Benjamin J. and Hallock, P. 2019. Timing of recovery of the symbiont bearing benthic foraminifer *Amphistegina gibbosa* following removal from extended aphotic conditions: Marine Micropaleontology, v. 149, p. 35-43.

Ross, Benjamin J. 2018. Dormancy in the *Amphistegina gibbosa* holobiont: ecological and evolutionary implications for the Foraminifera. University of South Florida. PhD Dissertation.

Ross, Benjamin. J., and Hallock, P., 2018. Challenges in using CellTracker Green on foraminifers that host algal endosymbionts: PeerJ 6:e5304; DOI 10.7717/peerj.5304.

Ross, Benjamin J. and Hallock, P., 2016, Dormancy in the Foraminifera: A Review: Journal of Foraminiferal Research, v. 46, p. 358-368.

Ross, Benjamin J. and Hallock, P., 2014, Chemical toxicity on coral reefs: bioassay protocols utilizing benthic foraminifers: Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology, v. 457, p. 226-235.

Ross, Benjamin J. 2012. Responses to chemical exposure by foraminifera: Distinguishing dormancy from mortality. Master's thesis, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

ABSTRACTS:

Ross, B.J. "Dormancy, survival, and recovery of the photosymbiotic foraminifera *Amphistegina gibbosa* following long-term aphotic incubation". Oral presentation at the Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography Annual Meeting.

Dubickas, K., Ross, B.J., and Amergian, K. "The Oceanography Camp for Girls: 28 years of experiential learning to engage teens in ocean research and careers". Poster presentation at the Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography Annual Meeting.

Martinez-Colon, M. and Ross, B.J. “Morphological descriptions of Turbellaria cocoons attached to numerous benthic foraminifers from Apalachicola Bay, Florida”. Poster presentation at the International Symposium on Foraminifera.

Ross, B.J. “Observations of the symbiont-bearing foraminifer *Amphistegina gibbosa* utilizing CellTrackerGreen and epifluorescent microscopy”. Oral presentation at Geological Society of America Annual Meeting.

Ross, B.J. “Dormancy in the Foraminifera: Implications for the past, present and future”. Oral presentation at Geological Society of America Annual Meeting

Ross, B.J. “Dormancy as a survival response to environmental stressors in the benthic symbiotic foraminifer *Amphistegina gibbosa*”. Oral presentation at North American Paleontological Conference.

Ross, B.J. “Responses to chemical exposure by foraminifera: Distinguishing dormancy from mortality”. Oral presentation at Geological Society of America

Ross, B.J. “Developing protocols for testing toxic chemicals on the symbiotic foraminifer, *Amphistegina gibbosa* d'Orbigny: Challenges and new directions”. Oral presentation at JAMSTEC Field Workshop on Living Foraminifera in Japan.

Ross, B.J. “Assessing acute and long-term effects of chemical exposure in Foraminifera: Challenges and new directions”. Poster presentation at Florida Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting.

Ross, B.J. “Acute and sub-acute effects of exposure to dispersant chemicals on the larger foraminifer *Amphistegina gibbosa*”. Poster presentation at Florida Association of Benthologists annual meeting.